

Idaho Geospatial Committee

October 15, 2009, Meeting Minutes

(to be approved by committee)

The October 15, 2009 meeting of the Idaho Geospatial Committee was held in Room 302 of the LBJ Building, 650 West State Street, Boise, Idaho.

ATTENDANCE

Members/Designate(s) Present:

Nick Nydegger, Chair, Idaho Military Division
Stephen Cox, Idaho Department of Agriculture
Gail Eckwright, University of Idaho (phone)
Gail Ewart, Idaho Geospatial Office

Nancy Glenn, Idaho State University
Dennis Hill, City of Pocatello (phone)
Diane Holloran, HDR Engineering
Donna Pitzer, USDI, Bureau of Reclamation
Frank Roberts, Coeur d'Alene Tribe (phone)

Others Present:

Sally Brevick, Office of the CIO
Walt Bulawa, Idaho State Tax Commission
Dave Christensen, Kootenai County (phone)

Bruce Godfrey, Inside Idaho (phone)
Jacob Mundt, Ada County
Jeff Servatius, Idaho State Tax Commission
Bill Reynolds, Nez Perce County (phone)

APPROVALS

Motion: Dennis Hill moved and Gail Ewart seconded a motion to approve the August 20, 2009 minutes, with amendments as provided by Gail Ewart; the motion passed unanimously.

(http://idaho.gov/itrmc/committees/igc/minutes/2009/20091015_IGC_minutes.pdf)

UNITED STATES AND WORLDWIDE GEOSPATIAL WEB SERVICES

Nick Nydegger initiated a discussion regarding available web services. The following web services and data providers were discussed:

ArcGIS Online Resource Center: <http://resources.esri.com/arcgisonlineservices>

Google services and maps: <http://code.google.com/apis/maps/> / <http://maps.google.com>

Bing services and maps: <http://www.bing.com/maps>

Transportation - NAVTEQ <http://www.navteq.com>

- TeleAtlas <http://www.teleatlas.com>

- USDOT <http://www.dot.gov>

Nick encouraged everyone to take full advantage of the available web service resources. These resources continue to emerge and or evolve as web service technologies expand. Nick also noted that we should take advantage of these resources but continue to develop the data and applications locally that can meet our specific business needs. In the ensuing discussion the following was noted:

- NAVTEQ, ESRI and Google maps do not reflect, or are slow to reflect, changes occurring in local data especially in low density areas. Their maps and data still have significant resource value.
- Donna Pitzner mentioned a useful blog site: <http://apb.directionsmag.com>.
- The updated 2009 NAIP imagery will be supplied to ESRI for ArcGisOnline when it becomes available.
- It is important that the map or web services being worked on here in Idaho are cached at the same levels as the web services they will utilize or consume. Being aware of this fact can help reduce development effort.

- It was clarified that the NAIP Imagery will be delivered to as wide an audience as possible using available technologies. The consortium partners are empowered to make the decision about what is needed given the partnership agreement under which they are operating.
- There is value in having the dataset cached in more than the one projection. There are also resource issues in doing so.

ITRMC MEETING REPORT

Gail advised the committee that the Information Technology Resource Management Council (ITRMC) had embarked on a portfolio management of IT projects in state government. A project team selected the ISDI budget request for review by the Council along with 7 other large-scale projects. These had been presented the previous day and the ISDI review had met with unanimous approval. This does not translate immediately into actual funding due to the present economic climate, but it does allow monies to be accepted, from whatever source, if and when they are made available.

ITRMC has also approved the Policy 5030 regarding the development of framework standards: http://www2.state.id.us/itrmc/plan&policies/Policies/P5030_Framework_Standards_Development.pdf
The first standard, for emergency service zones, is currently in the public comment period, and a presentation will take place on October 29th, during GIS week.

REGIONAL RESOURCE CENTERS

Nick reminded everyone that at the time of last meeting, three proposals had been received, two complete and one regarded incomplete. New iterations as well as new proposals have since been submitted, these will be posted as soon as possible at <http://gis.idaho.gov/IGO/stratplan.htm> under Plans. The next step in moving the initiative forward is to combine the proposals in an implementation plan. Once the plan is assembled, it will be made available for comments and approval. Funding for the resource centers will be through multiple threads such as general fund, grants, existing resources, pooling from individual jurisdictions.

GOVERNANCE TRANSITION

Nick advised that small steps were being taken. By-laws were being discussed and preliminary drafts worked up. The executive order is being reworded. It was noted that the executive order expires in January 2010.

CADASTRAL LEGISLATION STATUS

Nick informed everyone that cadastral legislation is not ready to be presented in the next legislative session. There is a lot of useful, ongoing dialogue in this regard which is increasing awareness. Momentum will need to be sustained through the next year to fully define these ideas for presentation to the following legislative session.

NAIP IMAGERY COOPERATIVE STATUS

Nick advised that all of the compressed county mosaics have been delivered and made available to the consortium for downloading and review. All feedback should go to Toni Williams. The imagery notes from the October meeting are available at <http://gis.idaho.gov/framework.htm>. There will be NAIP presentations at the coming GIS week. It was noted that infrared data is not included in the current deliveries for review.

IDAHO LiDAR CONSORTIUM

Nancy Glenn explained that the University of Idaho and Idaho State University had received funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to process and compile LiDAR data within Idaho. A group has been formed creating a loosely defined Idaho Consortium, similar to the Puget Sound Consortium. Initially the funding will be used to build functionality for queries and uploads. The consortium will not be interested in serving the LiDAR data, the data can be sent to Inside Idaho, but the consortium will promote the use of the USGS CLICK site (<http://lidar.cr.usgs.gov>) where the data is hosted free and can be downloaded at no cost. Most of the data at ISU is posted on this site which has open public access. As the consortium moves forward, there may be a need for hosting the data locally but the aim is to minimize duplication of resources.

A white paper is being developed describing the Idaho Consortium database. There is a Google map on the ISU lab site (http://bcal.geology.isu.edu/mapping/studyareas_largemap.html) which shows the locations of LiDAR and hyperspectral imagery along with some basic metadata information. It is hoped that this database will become more sophisticated with more metadata as this application matures. We are also looking to have the data accessible through Inside Idaho.

National efforts along these lines include <http://www.opentopography.org> which hosts datasets as well as super polygon metadata for LiDAR data that has been collected through NSF EarthScope. OpenTopography.org is also tied into GEON, a national geospatial earth observation network. Consideration is being given to making sure that everything built in Idaho can be transferred onto, for example, opentopography.org. We are watching for any opportunities that might assist in collecting statewide LiDAR data.

Interested participants who would like to help with these efforts can do so by providing polygons and metadata for their LiDAR data. A call was put out on the Geotech Listserver over the summer and only two people responded. It is hoped that more will respond once the baseline database is set up. At this stage, all comments and information should be sent to Nancy. It is hoped that that most of this data will be available for public access. If people want to keep ownership of the data or licensing prevents public distribution, they are encouraged to provide at least the polygon footprint and metadata to document an area where data has been collected.

PUBLIC SAFETY

The draft framework standard for Emergency service Zones is now available for review at <http://gis.idaho.gov/igo/Draft%20Data%20Exchange%20Standard%20for%20ESZ%20rev6.pdf>.

Bill Reynolds updated the committee about progress in various areas:

- The draft framework standard for Structures should be ready by GIS week.
- The structures stewardship development project: currently working on developing a stewardship charter with Bruce Godfrey on how the data is aggregated, accumulated and distributed.
- The stewardship plan and pilot project: still need some preliminary elements defined or created before they can move forward.
- Bruce Godfrey will start a small pilot project involving those who have already adopted the structures standard. After the initial testing this will be opened up in January to a larger group.

Gail noted the importance of building the human relationships among the different participants. Bill noted that the stewardship charter would hopefully include outreach and training programs.

LOCAL ACTIVITY REPORTS, PROJECT NEWS AND NEW BUSINESS

GIS WEEK: October 27-30 in Boise. Schedule and flyers are posted (www.gis.idaho.gov).

Nick Nydegger: a local company has been carrying out reasonably-priced flights for Nick, capturing aerial images. They only provide raw images at this time. They recently captured some impressive, very high resolution images as well as aerial thermography. Contact Nick for more information.

Diane Holloran: HDR Engineering has an enterprise licensing agreement with ESRI and recently added ArcGIS Server licenses to several workgroups. Since their work is project-based, they will not use these to serve data to all staff, but will use these on a project basis to help share GIS data and tools. However, HDR still has the need to share data for daily use amongst GIS users, and it is anticipated that they will develop some sites to share commonly used data. The addition of ArcGIS Server licenses will be beneficial for HDR as a company.

Jake Mundt: This winter Ada County will be moving some applications into an ArcGis Server/ ArcGis Mobile application. They will also utilize other available web services through Flex applications. They are looking to dynamically synchronize data between ArcGis Server, their mobile applications and their DB2 database.

Dennis Hill: Pictometry activity in Pocatello, Pictometry user group meeting on November 19th. They have Marshall's mobile application and we've been playing around with that. Marshall's mobile application works with ArcGis Server. They will be sending out their personnel to test mobile applications. GIS day at ISU is November 19th.

Jeff Servatius / Walt Bulawa: The Tax Commission has been visiting with a couple of counties who are posting more of their CAMA data on the web. Custer County has posted a link on their website to their CAMA services. The Tax Commission is also working on cleaning up tax boundaries and edge-matching parcel boundaries. Ada County has a very good parcel layer, and Kootenai and Adams Counties will also be workable but beyond that it may become problematic.

Stephen Cox: The Dept. of Agriculture has been working with the Invasive Species Council over the summer acquiring data at inspection stations in relation to the Quagga and Zebra mussels. A report will be made available to everyone and a presentation will be made to the legislature.

Donna Pitzer: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has "retired" the National Integrated Land System (NILS) which was developed over the past 4 or 5 years and intended to be the repository of all federal lands information. This has had an impact on the BLM and on Reclamation, not only in terms of the parcel information but also the federal land information. It also impacts the Geographic Coordinate Data Base (GCDB) in that GCDB information was to be sent to Denver and, in turn, made available to the public through NILS. GCDB information will continue to be collected but what will happen to the information beyond the state office is not known at this stage.

Bruce Godfrey: Three areas of current focus for Inside Idaho are ongoing efforts with the National Science Foundation grant, the integration of roads data and the distribution of BLM data posted on the web.

Frank Roberts: A number of datasets have been successfully loaded into ArcGis Server; some of these are available publicly. Just finished a contract for web work done for the Shoalwater Tribe. They set up an ARCGIS server instance for them, funded by an EPA network exchange grant. Efforts are continuing on the Native Names Project although, funding has dried up from USGS. Consideration is being given to collaborating with the Smithsonian.

Dave Christensen: Kootenai County has almost completed their parcel polygons. Dave is harvesting the County's ownership data on a weekly basis but would like to do this nightly. A Silverlight application that provides access to this data has been tested in house for the past couple of months. It is anticipated that the application will be available to general public in November.

NEXT MEETING

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM; the next meeting of the Idaho Geospatial Committee is scheduled to take place on December 17, 2009. It is anticipated that future meetings will be held in Room 155 of the LBJ Building, 650 West State Street.

Respectfully submitted,



Sally Brevick, Office of the CIO